**Description**

- To demonstrate the efforts and capacity building of AYPLHIV networks in the region, an international survey was conducted between March and May 2017. The survey was administered to AYPLHIV networks in Burundi, Kenya, Malawi, Mozambique, Nigeria, Rwanda, and Uganda.
- While the survey was open only to AYPLHIV networks, it also extended to networks that are social enterprises, non-governmental organisations, and civil society organisations. As a result, it is the first time that a survey in sub-Saharan Africa has examined the capacities and priorities that can be tracked over time.
- A total of 52 networks completed the tool in December 2017.
- The results of the survey showcase the importance of capacity building and resource mobilization plans.
- The tool provides an overview of network strategy, governance, financial management, human resources, project management, partnerships, communications and advocacy. The tool contains a combination of network outputs and priorities that can be tracked over time.

**Conclusions**

- **Lessons learned**
  - **Self-assessment data contributed to better understanding of network perspectives, capacity gaps and challenges.**
  - **Partners need to provide capacity building support that meets the assessments of their partners.**
  - **AYPLHIV networks need more capacity building and more support.**
  - **AYPLHIV networks need to move beyond tokenized representation or isolated engagement.**
  - **AYPLHIV networks are moving towards a more collective and collaborative approach.**

- **Funding of youth networks remains challenging, with many donors not trusting youth-led networks to fund.**
- **Opportunities to meet through platforms such as the regional networks meetings is highly valued.**
- **Preliminary findings show that core support is critical and can, in a brief period (April – December 2017), facilitate development from an informal association of young people to that of a more structured and aligned network.**
- **Effective engagement and investment in youth-led networks is urgently needed. This requires a move beyond tokenized representation or isolated engagement.**
- **Capacity assessment surveys are best complemented with focus group discussions, site visits and cross-site analysis.**

**Further Information:**

- [Readership and Treatment Africa (PATA)](http://www.readership.org)
- [African Young Positives Network](http://www.africanyounetworks.org)
- [Earthlinks](http://www.earthlinks.org)
- [Global Network of Young People Living with HIV (AYPNET)](http://www.aypnet.org)

**For more information:**

- [Readership and Treatment Africa (PATA) – Email: info@teampata.org](http://www.readership.org)
- [Global Network of Young People Living with HIV (AYPNET) – Email: info@aypnet.org](http://www.aypnet.org)